The Mint Master

July 2010 Volume 56, Issue 7

Newsletter of the Utah Numismatic Society

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This Month's Program:



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Presidents Message

Hello Everyone,
Thanks for the
tremendous
participation in our
youth night last month.
I believe we had our
largest turnout in at
least a couple of years.
I'm pretty sure the
young folks had a lot of
fun...us old folks too.

Speaking of fun, this month we'll hold our annual picnic in the Sugarhouse Park on July 13. As usual, we'll have plenty of food & fun as well as some great prizes to give away (think gold!). Hopefully this year we'll have a nice sunny day to go along with the good times.

Spread the good word about our club. Invite a friend, family member or neighbor to a club meeting. Our entire board will be working on growing our club for the remainder of the year. Please do your part to help our



wonderful club to grow!

Happy July 4th and July 24th!

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm ... As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others.

Audrey Hepburn

Tom Jensen

July Meeting Details.

Meetings - Second Tuesday of each month (July 13th)

Time - 6:00 P.M. till Dusk

Location - Sugarhouse Park / Parley's Creek Pavilion

Greetings - Tom Jensen

Mini Exhibit - None

News & Views - None

Coin Quiz - None

Refreshments- UNS

UNS Schedule for 2010

July - UNS Picnic

August -Speaker - TBA

Sept. - Auction

Oct.-Grading Seminar Speaker - TBA

Nov.-Bourse/Elections

Dec.-Christmas Dinner





World Record Price!
\$7,850,000.00 was the price paid for the above 1794
Silver Dollar. This surpassed the record price paid for the 1933 double eagle. Some believe that the above specimen was the first dollar struck by the fledgling US mint in 1794 and it is graded as a Specimen-66 by PCGS. Of 1,758 dollars reportedly struck bearing the year 1794 it is estimated that only about 140-150 survive.

Interesting Coin of the Month

1921 Chapman & Zerbe Proofs







ZERBE PROOF

In 1921 Farran Zerbe who had friends in high places managed to have the San Francisco mint strike a small number of proof examples of the resurrected Morgan Dollar which handy been struck since 1904. The resulting 'Zerbe' Proofs had a rather dull and hairlined surface which by some today is discounted as an actual proof. It is in any event a far superior strike to the normal high grade dollar of 1921. As competition goes, another connected individual, Henry Chapman, also a prominent collector of the time with connections at the mint through George Morgan, the coins designer, also managed to gain a favor of having the mint strike a number of proofs. The so-called 'Chapman' proofs are far superior to the Zerbe proofs and have a full mirror surface with complete details struck up on the coin. Both are major rarities with probably only about a dozen of each known.

UNS Program for July's Meeting

Picnic

Last Name A-M please bring a salad
Last name M-Z please bring a dessert
Also - Please bring plates and utensils for your family
Remember, the picnic begins at 6PM
Fun and games for the youth
Special prizes

Prizes & Buy of the Month

This month's buy is:

No special buy this month

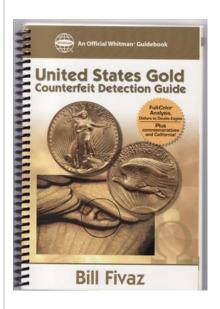
Prizes of the Month -

There will be 5 gold Mexican 2 Peso coins as prizes at our picnic. So you all have a 500% greater chance of going home with gold than at our regular club meetings. Make sure you attend!

UNS Picnic Details

Location - Sugarhouse Park, Salt Lake City





Book Review

As is the basic theme of this month's newsletter I have chosen a great book which covers counterfeit gold. This is a Whitman book released in 2005 but is still widely available. I would recommend this book to anyone who collects, buys, or is interested in U.S. gold coinage. As pictured it is a coil bound book and consists of 214 pages. The author, Bill Fivaz, has impeccable credentials and is one of the world's experts on varieties and counterfeits. He has done a extremely wonderful job of putting this book together. It begins with a chapter entitles 'Rules of Thumb' which outlines the major rules for identifying counterfeits.

- 1. Weak/Fatty Strike
- 2. Repeating Depressions
- 3. Tool Marks
- 4. Spikes
- 5. Sunken letters/numbers
- 6. Color
- 7. And much more.

The book then begins with gold dollars and continues through every denomination and concludes with gold commems. and even California gold pieces.

There are multiple specific dates/mints depicted in each section with whole coin photos and close up's of the suspect areas. Although you may not encounter any specific coin(s) listed in this book, Bill shows and describes the information contained about what counterfeits are made up of will undoubtedly save you many dollars and much grief if you routinely trade U.S. Gold.

The listed price of \$19.95 is well worth it and the information and full color pictures are invaluable far beyond this price. I highly recommend that you add this book to your library.



Consider yourself a world class expert if you can identify the above coin. (I.e. Denomination, date, and mint, and anything else notable.) It can be done.

And just to see who reads this, a prize will be given to the first person with the correct answer at the picnic.

Coin Ouiz & Trivia

The AMERICAI variety was the result of an I-shaped die defect on the reverse of certain:

a. 1798 large cents 1800 silver dollars

c. 1801 eagles d. 1817 half dollars

Templeton Reid was one of the first private gold coinage producers in the country. Some examples were produced in Georgia with later pieces made of California gold. Which of the following denominations was not among these issues?

a. \$2.50

c. \$20 d. \$25

\$5 b.

3. Lesher Referendum dollars were produced by Colorado resident Joseph Lesher at the beginning of the 20th century? In what city did Lesher reside?

Cripple Creek b. Victor

c. Colorado Springs d. Golden

Which of the following is the rarest \$10 gold eagle?

a. 1926 1904-O c. 1930-S d. 1913-S

Which of the following trade dollars is the rarest issue?

1874

c. 1876

1875 b.

d. 1877

Answers to last month's questions.

1969-S Double Die 21932-S3) 1914 4) 1975 5) 1917

Young Numismatist's Corner

Do you like money? Do you like history? Are you age 22 or younger? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then YOU can be a Young Numismatist (YN) member of the ANA and discover how much fun coin collecting can be! YN Programs offer a variety of opportunities for young collectors to become engaged in numismatics and learn more about the hobby. Becoming a YN ANA member is fun, affordable, and

provides many benefits.



Young Numismatists can sign up to receive Your Newsletter, an electronic publication by and for young numismatists, complete with updates on projects, events and activities. Your Newsletter is available to anyone interested in coins, paper money, tokens or medals by request

to education@money.org. Have you written a numismatic article that you would like to publish? Send it with your name to YourNewsletter@Money.org



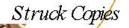
"Hey, who put my buffalo nickels in here?!"

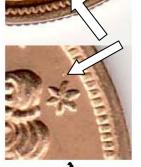
The information to the left is reprinted from the ANA website 'Money.org' If there are any youth in the UNS who would like to learn more about coins they can sign up for the newsletter mentioned. Get involved with your hobby and have a great

Jackson Owens won the set of Jefferson nickels at lasts months meeting. Congratulations!

Counterfeit Corner

COUNTERFIET US GOLD







Pick Up Point

Crudeness Color Die Defects

Frequency Encountered Very Common

Identification Difficulty
Easy to Difficult

Value High Virtually every issue of U.S. gold coin has been counterfeited. Some are quite easy to detect, others can be quite difficult. The best defense when purchasing a raw gold coin is to check it especially if it raises any suspicions. Key items are, 1) Is the color normal, 2) are there any defects such as raised lumps or areas which may look like die rust or tooling, 3) Check the denticles completely both obverse and reverse. 4) Don't forget to inspect the reeding. This is an area which counterfeiters often have trouble duplicating. 5) General sharpness, counterfeits often look mushy.

Weight is another check to make. Many times fake gold coins do weigh close to tolerance as most are made of .900 fine gold or in many cases much finer. Coins closer to 24k gold usually have that 'look' often being much brighter.

Please reference the 'Back Page' of this newsletter for some close up's of pick up points.

Feature Article - State Tax Tokens / Doug Nyholm

We have probably all seen these; small metal, plastic, or fiberboard tokens issued in various amounts but most often seen are those of '1 Mil.' What are they, how were they used, did they circulate alongside regular coinage, who issued them, and what are they worth?????? First, they were issued by the following 12 states.

Alabama Arizona Colorado Illinois Kansas Louisiana Mississippi Missouri New Mexico Oklahoma Utah Washington

Their issue began during the 1930's during the depression beginning with Washington tokens in May, 1935. By the end of WWII most had been discontinued but records show that Missouri created and issued tokens until 1961 and although Ohio used only paper receipts (not tokens) did not abandon the practice until 1962. Did they circulate? Yes they actually did!











Washington Token

Colorado Token

Utah Token

Colorado Token (Plastic)

Oklahoma Token

A main reason for their creation was that during the depression the collection of sales tax was a significant revenue source for the government however on a sale of 10c in order to collect tax a merchant would have to charge 1c. This 10% tax during the time of the depression was unacceptable and an extreme hardship upon the taxpayer. The tax tokens were usually valued at 1 Mill which was equal to 1/10 cent which would allow a reasonable tax to be collected. In 1935 the sales tax in Washington was raise to 2% which in turn gave their token a value of 1/5th of a cent or 2 Mills. Later Washington's tokens read 'on 14c' when the tax was raised to 3%. Other denominations existed and were created because increases in local taxes. Initially these tokens were opposed vigorously by the government stating that they were 'money' and competed with the federal circulating coinage. These acquisitions by the government were soon dropped and literally millions of these tax tokens were issued. Apparently there was far greater concerns for the government to pursue during the depression than the tax token issue.

Tax tokens are found in several materials including aluminum, copper, brass, zinc, cardboard, fiber and plastic. The non-metal versions came in a number of different colors. Metal tokens were issued from 1935 to 1940, fiber material was used from 1941-1943, and plastics were used after 1943. Most tokens are in two sizes, 22/23 millimeters and 16 millimeters and most have a center punch of varying shapes and sizes.

Collecting these various tokens is relatively easy as most are available at reasonable costs. One could probably put together a very complete set of different tokens from every state issuing them for under \$100. This might be an interesting collection, very historical, and a lot of fun to put together. I think this would make an outstanding exhibit at a future UNS meeting or show. Any takers?

Doug Nyholm





MONARCH COINS

211 E. 3900 S. Salt Lake City, UT 801-262-5874

Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 to 5:00 & Saturday 10:00 to 2:00

Come see our expanded showroom.

Staci Larsen, Bob Ottley, Sarah Rich, and Jesse VanDeMere



Muller/Robertson Coins & Currency

We are looking to buy collections or individual pieces of world/US coins and currency Call us at 801-581-0991

Eureka Coin Company

Contact George Wilson at: 801-928-1192 or email at Eurekacoins@gmail.com

Identify This Coin

Can you identify the coin pictured above? What is the date, mint, and what is special about it?

Good Luck!

[Last month's coin was a "NE Shilling" or New England shilling probably struck in 1652. It was the predecessor to the Willow, Oak, and Pine tree shillings also struck beginning in 1652 in Massachusetts.]

ALL ABOUT COINS

1123 E. 2100 S. Salt Lake City, UT 801-467-8636

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed Monday's Contact **Bob Campbell** at 801-467-8636 UNS Member since 1973

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Contact LaVon Ottley at 801-597-6488 or Bob Ottley at 801-943-3913

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www.rustcoin.com Contact Josh Rust for all your numismatic needs.

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Bryan Rust or Sherilee Kazamini

Rusycoinz1@hotmail.com

If you are looking to sell you collection please give us a call! We also trade and sell coins. We love to help our customers with coins they need, so if you have a want list we would be happy to help you out. We've been in the coin business for 45 years.



Own this beautiful two-sided coin for \$9.97 including shipping.

www.ChristianChallengeCoins.com

1.5" brass stamped antiqued gold plated with soft enamel colors. Two-sided with 3-D relief images. Hefty, nearly 1 ounce coin. Mfg. by Symbol Arts – Ogden Utah

Christian Challenge Coin by PFC Coins, LLC

Special Ad

Chris Larson has the following for sale:

- Almost complete UNS medal set 1970-2007 Missing only 3 medals.
- 2. Scarce 1st edition 'Tokens of Utah' by Harry Campbell Asking \$100.00!

Contact Chris at 801-943-3101

This is a paid advertisement. If anyone in the UNS has material for sale why not place an ad in the Mintmaster?

Contact your editor, Doug Nyholm for details.



UNS Officers & Board Members

Tom Jensen - President Doug Nyholm - VP Sharee Norman - Sec. Ralph Mueller - Treas. Don Swain - Medals Bruce Griggs - Curator Dennis Ruffell - Lib. Bob Campbell - Bourse Doug Nyholm- Newslet.

Board

Chris Larsen
Robert Whitehead
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Ron Swain
Michael Norman
David Larsen
Robie Cagle



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Utah Numismatic Society

P.O. Box 65064 Salt Lake City, UT 84165

E-mail

douglas.nyholm@ comcast.net

Your input, suggestions and written articles are always appreciated



"Anything happen on the Coin Network since they came back from commercial?



Comments, Suggestions, and articles should be submitted to:

douglas.nyholm@comcast

Membership Form

Application for membership in the Utah Numismatic Society / UNS		
Name(s) of applicant(s)		
Address:		
Phone Number;E-mail Address:		
How would you like to receive the newsletter? [] Email / Preferred [] Postal Mail		
Sponsor:		
When & Where we meet – Columbus Community Center 2531 South 400 East Salt Lake City, UT 84115 Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM		
Annual Dues:		
[] Family \$25 [] Adult (18 and older) \$15 [] Junior \$5		
Individual Lifetime Memberships are \$250.00. There is no family Lifetime Membership		

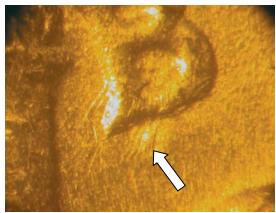
PLAN AHEAD!



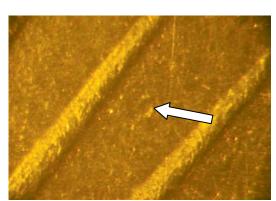
FEATURING: COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY,

HAND HELD COLLECTIBLES AND JEWELRY

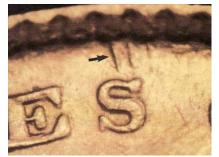
The Back Page - Counterfeit Diagnostics



Tool marks near the B in liberty of a 1924-S \$20



Depression between the rays of the same coin.



Commonly Seen Spikes from the edge.



Typical tool mark



Raised dot



Raised blemish



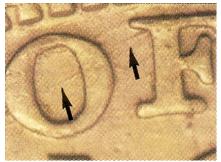
Small Depressions



Spike from top of 'S'



Many raised bubbles



Tool Marks